

and from behind the trench to complete it. The excavations in front were made to answer as a "tank trap" and that behind was so dug as to take care of the trench drainage. However, it required so much labor to complete trenches of this type that an order was issued forbidding any further construction of trenches in that sector with six feet of cover. Therefore the remainder of the trench work was done in constructing trenches with only four feet and six inches of cover and using the duck boards as a fire step. (*See Plate VIII.*) Even this necessitated excavations both in front and rear of the trench to supply sufficient earth for the parapet and parados. These two platoons of Company D after the first week continued work of digging and revetting trenches of four feet and six inches of cover, and in laying the duck boards in the same. No attempt was made at camouflaging the work.

The other two platoons of Company D, D-2 and D-3, under Lieutenant D. M. Williams, were engaged in the construction of concrete pill boxes, shelters, and artillery observation posts. This work was also conducted under the platoon commanders, directed by officers from the 34th British Division R. E.'s.

On July 13th Lieutenant Field returned to the company and took charge of one platoon at Gaunt Farm until Lieutenant D. M. Williams was evacuated, when he commanded both.

Lieutenant Warren was put on special duty to assist the Regimental Stores Officer on July 14th and this left the first two platoons under Lieutenant Stroup.

On July 23rd the two platoons D-1 and D-2, under Lieutenant Stroup, moved to Central Camp F 14 d 5.6.

*Company E:* On July 11th the company was divided into three detachments—Two platoons, E-1 and E-3, under Captain Sullivan, went to Furze Camp; E-2, under Lieutenant R. M. Williams, went to Gaunt Farm, and E-4, under Lieutenant McDonald, went on detached service with the British Foreways Companies at A 3 b 9.8.

The two platoons under Captain Sullivan

were engaged in the same kind of trench and wire work, and in the same locality, as the two platoons of Company D under Lieutenants Stroup and Warren, and the platoons rotated on the work in the same manner. On July 13th Lieutenant Warfield reported back to the company for duty and was assigned to command Platoon E-1. On July 19th Lieutenant Phillips, who had been dropped at Liverpool, England, when the detachment debarked June 12th, on account of the measles, reported to the company and was assigned to command E-3.

Platoon E-2, under Lieutenant R. M. Williams, at Gaunt Farm was engaged in constructing concrete pill boxes. On this work camouflage was used and the men worked from 6:00 A. M. to 2:00 P. M. The enemy shelled this work frequently and the men had to be withdrawn on several occasions.

Platoon E-4, under Lieutenant McDonald, reported to the Foreways Company No. 4 at A 3 b 9.8. While there they were engaged in all work common to the light railways, including construction and operation. They were also fortunate enough to participate in launching a cloud gas attack against the enemy in the sector just east of Ypres. On the night of July 13th-14th enemy airplanes attacked the light railway yards at the camp where this platoon was billeted. No casualties resulted though three bombs were dropped within thirty yards of the tents that the men occupied. On July 16th this platoon moved to B 28 a 8.5, Trois-Tours, where they were engaged in light railway construction and operation until July 23rd.

On July 18th Captain Sullivan took charge of the work on the West Poperinghe reserve trenches from Poperinghe-Proven road to Poperinghe-La Lovie Chateau road, where one battalion of Infantry were engaged in building these trenches. Assisting him were twenty picked men from the company.

*Company F:* On July 11th this company was divided into four detachments—one and one-half platoons under Lieutenant Ellicott moved to F 14 d 7.4; one-half of one platoon under Master Engineer Stockard moved to